



**2022 Fishing Guide
Mecklenburg Scout Reservation
Nebo, NC
Prepared by MCC Fishing**

Introduction

Welcome to Mecklenburg Scout Reservation. We have two wonderful lakes with some great fishing opportunities. Lake Albert, the smaller lake located on the west side of the entrance road, and Lake Calhoun, the larger lake.

Places to Fish at MSR

Lake Albert and Lake Albert Point. Easy access, but a word of caution... Lake Albert is a flood control lake. The point gets muddy after the lake rises. **If rain is moving in, do not stay on the point.**

Lake Calhoun is an 80+ acre lake that is filled with fish. The attached map has some likely places.

Sorry, but fishing on or around the swimming docks or in the swimming area is **NOT allowed.**

What kinds of fish live in our lakes?

Black Crappie, Bluegill, Common Carp, Gizzard Shad, Large Mouth Bass, Redbreast Sunfish, Redear Sunfish and Yellow Bullhead (Catfish). If you want to see what they look like check out [NC Wildlife Fish Species](#)

Before you fish

- **If you are new to fishing, get some basic instruction before you start fishing.**
- Learn a few basic knots, how to rig a line, and learn how to cast.
- Also learn about the types of fish that live in the lake, and the animals that live around the lake.

Fishing tackle

Feel free to bring your own fishing tackle but remember, no lures with treble hooks.

Loaner tackle

We have some loaner rods and tackle. They are available through the Campmaster's office. If the rod or reel breaks or stops working, tell the Campmaster. If it can be fixed, he or she will mark it with orange tape and set it aside for repair.

Hooks

- We suggest long shank barbless hooks. Size 6 or 8 work for panfish.
- **Use circle or barbless hooks or smash down the barb on all hooks.** It is much easier to remove a barbless hook from yourself, your friend, or the fish. When you get a strike, just keep tension on the line.
- For safety reasons –we recommend No Treble Hooks

Bait

- Artificial worms and lures.
- Red worms, night crawlers, crickets.
- **Do not bring shiners or other bait fish.**
- The Bass Shack in Shelby is one of our supporters, and a great source of bait, tackle, and information. The store is located at 2330 Kings Rd Ext.

Safety First

- Wear a hat, preferably broad-brimmed.
- Wear eye protection; sunglasses or safety glasses.
- *Bring your personal First Aid Kit and filled water bottle.*
- *Use the buddy system. Fishing with a friend is a lot more fun.*
- Look around you before you cast. *Trees love to eat worms, and lures.*
- If you have someone near you, find another place to stand.
- Watch out for snakes.
- When appropriate, use sunscreen and bug spray.

Other tips

- Protect the fish's slime covering. Wet your hands before touching it.
- Unless instructed otherwise by Mecklenburg County Council Fishing Committee, all lakes are **Catch and Release.**
- Watch your step.
- Do not step on rods and reels. They can break!
- Watch out for snakes. If you see a snake, leave it alone!
- Stay away from poison ivy.
- Don't leave your fishing rod in the water with the line unattended.
 - Fish love to eat bait and can easily pull rods into the water.
- Always clean up all trash.
- Leave the lake area camp cleaner than you found it.

MCC Fishing Resources

Check out the resources on our website <https://www.mccscouting.org/fishing>

Tell us about your catch

Keep track of what you caught and report your catch to your adult leader.

Scoutmasters – Please send the information and photos to mccfishing415@gmail.com

